

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-09 EB-07

AID-05 TRSE-00 FRB-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 /126 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 227

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, ECOSOC,SV

SUBJECT: ECOSOC: ASSISTANCE TO INDO-CHINA

TRANSMITTED BELOW IS AMB FERGUSON'S STATEMENT
ON ASSISTANCE TO INDO-CHINA DELIVERED MAY 7
FOLLOWING ADOPTION WITHOUT VOTE OF ECOSOC RES
1660.

QUOTE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE PRESS RELEASE USUN -37(75
MAY 7, 1975

STATEMENT BY AMDASSADOR CLARENCE CLYDE FERGUSON, JR., UNITED
STATES REPRESENTATIVE IN THE ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, ON ASSISTANCE TO INDOHCINA, MAY 7, 1975.

MY DLEGATION ACCEPTS THE RESOLUTION AS IT APPEARS IN
DOCUMENT E/L.1660 AND HENCE JOINED IN THE CONSENSUS FOR ITS ADOPTION.

THERE IS UNDOUBTEDLY A HUMANITARIAN NEED TO BE MET IN
INDOCHINA. WE MUST, HOWEVER, NOTE THAT THE PRESENT SITUATION IN
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INDOCHINA IS NECESSARILY A HIGHLY COMPLEX ONE. THERE IS

THE PROBLEM BOTH OF DETERMINING NEEDS, AND OF ASCERTAINING THE ATTITUDES OF THE VARIOUS AUTHORITIES IN POWER IN THE VARIOUS POLITICAL ENTITIES OF THE INDOCHINESE PENINSULA. I AM CONSTRAINED IN THIS REGARD TO NOTE THAT MY GOVERNMENT DOES NOT FAVOR THE PROVISION OF AMERICAN ASSISTANCE FOR REBUILDING THE ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE OF NORTH VIETNAM. HOWEVER, IN THE CONTEXT OF ANOTHER DEBATE INVOLVING SOUTH VIETNAM, I HAVE ALLUDED TO THE UNCERTAINTIES WHICH EXIST IN REGARD TO THE AUTHORITIES IN SOUTH VIETNAM. OUR SECRETARY OF STATE HAS STATED, IN THE CONTEXT OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN SOUTH VIETNAM, "WE (THE U.S.) WILL HAVE TO SEE WHAT KIND OF GOVERNMENT EMERGES IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND INDEED WHETHER THERE IS GOING TO BE A SOUTH VIETNAM." MR. PRESIDENT, MY GOVERNMENT WILL, HOWEVER, CERTAINLY EXAMINE WITH GREAT CARE AND COMPASSION SPECIFIC AND PRECISELY DEFINED HUMANITARIAN REQUESTS FROM RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES IN SOUTH VIETNAM THAT CAN BE CARRIED OUT BY TRADITIONAL HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES. WE NOTE WITH REGRET THAT OUR DEBATE ON THIS HUMANITARIAN ISSUE HAS BEEN MARRED BY CERTAIN OFFENSIVE ALLUSIONS MADE BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOME MEMBER STATES OF THIS COUNCIL.

MY DELEGATION DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THIS COUNCIL'S DEBATES SHOULD HAVE BEEN THE OCCASION FOR VICTORY CELEBRATIONS-HOWEVER MUTED.

IN CONCLUSION MR. PRESIDENT, IT IS THE GENERAL POSITION OF MY GOVERNMENT THAT THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESPONDING TO THE HUMANITARIAN NEEDS OF THE PENINSULAR SHOULD FALL UPON THE SHOULDERS OF THOSE WHO SUPPLIED THE WHEREWITHAL BY WHICH THE CHANGES ON THE PENINSULA WERE AFFECTUATED. WE SHOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT INDEED THE SUFFERING OF THE PEOPLE OF INDOCHINA IS OVER.

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